

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAR ES 02692 261034Z

15

ACTION SS-25

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O 261000Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9047

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2692

EXDIS

E.O.11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, TZ, CASC (SMUTS, BARBARA)(SMITH, KENNETH STEVEN)

(HUNTER, CARRIE JANE)

SUBJECT: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: PRESIDENTIAL LETTER

1. AS DEPT AWARE, THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT'S PUBLIC RPT PUBLIC POSITION THAT IT WOULD NOT UNDERTAKE ACTIONS UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE ZAIRIAN REBELS (PRP) TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF KIDNAPPED AMERICAN STUDENTS WAS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO PRESIDENT NYERERE'S PERSONALLY DIRECTED EFFORTS TO HELP US. THE RELEASE OF PRP PRISONERS HELD BY TANGOV FOR CRIMES IN TANZANIA; TANGOV NON-OBJECTION TO OUR MAINTAINING WHAT AMOUNTED TO AN EMBASSY BRANCH OFFICE IN KIGOMA, 1,000 MILES FROM DAR; NON-OBJECTION TO MOVEMENTS OF LARGE SUMS OF CURRENCY IN AND OUT OF TANZANIA IN MANNER INCONSISTENT WITH TANZANIAN REGULATIONS; NON-OBJECTION TO EMBASSY OPERATING OWN RADIO NET WITH KIGOMA; WAIVING OF ADVANCE NOTICE REQUIRED OF ALL FOREIGN DIPLOMATS BEFORE TRAVELING TO INTERIOR -- ALL THESE REQUIRED NYERERE'S PERSONAL SCRUTINY AND APPROVAL.

2. I BELIEVE TANGOV WOULD FIND IT INEXPLICABLE WERE USG TO FAIL TO TAKE NOTE OF THIS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. ACCORDINGLY, REQUEST THAT I BE AUTHORIZED TO DELIVER A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT NYERERE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT A SIGNED TEXT WILL FOLLOW. IN VIEW OF NYERERE'S SCHEDULED DEPARTURE FOR HIS ANNUAL RETREAT TO HIS HOME IN THE NORTH NEXT WEEK, I URGE THAT THIS MESSAGE REACH ME QUICKLY BEFORE THE LOCAL EUPHORIA OVER THIS JOINT TANGOV/USG SUCCESS DISSIPATES. DRAFT MESSAGE FOLLOWS.

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3. BEGIN TEXT

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,

PLEASE ACCEPT THE SINCERE GRATITUDE OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL AND COMPASSIONATE COOPERATION IN SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS MADE TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF THREE AMERICAN CITIZENS KIDNAPPED FROM YOUR COUNTRY ON MAY 19.

AMBASSADOR CARTER HAS KEPT ME INFORMED THOURGHOUT OF YOUR DEEP PERSONAL INTEREST AND SUPPORTIVE MEASURES WITHOUT WHICH THE SAFE RETURN OF THESE YOUNG PEOPLE WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE.

I REALIZE THE HEAVY BURDENS WHICH YOU BEAR AS YOU LEAD YOUR NATION FORWARD ALONG THE PATH OF DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTIVE EFFORTS TO BUILD PEACE IN AFRICA AND THE WORLD. MAY I EXPRESS MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO DEVOTE YOUR PRECIOUS TIME AND ENERGIES TO THIS MATTER WHICH HAS BEEN SO MUCH ON MY MIND.

SINCERELY,

/S/ GERALD FORD

END TEXT

CARTER

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NNN

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